

City of Milpitas

SISTER CITIES COMMISSION AGENDA

January 22, 2009

Milpitas City Hall, Committee Conference Room, 1st Floor

455 E. Calaveras Blvd.

7:00 PM

The Sister Cities Commission serves as an advisory body on matters affecting sister cities relationships, programs and activities. The sister cities Commission will also review applications for sister city affiliations and forward recommendations to City Council for establishment of future agreements.

Sister Cities Commission

Dennis Grilli, Chair

Nolan Chen

Debra Dugdale, Vice Chair

Roselda Mateo

Massoud Arefi

Beverly McCarter

Maria Magdalena Ortega

Alternate(s): Dana Arbaugh
Marsha Binh Tran

GENERAL ORDER OF BUSINESS

- | | |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| * Call to Order | * Reports |
| * Approval of Minutes | * Unfinished Business |
| * Public Input | * New Business |
| * Announcements | * Future Agenda Items |
| * Approval of Agenda | * Adjournment |

CITIZENS' FORUM

Members of the audience are invited to address the Commission under "Public Input" on any subject not scheduled on this agenda. Speakers must state their name and address for the Secretary's record and limit their remarks to under two minutes. As an item not on the agenda, no response is required of City staff or the Commission; however, the Commission may place the item on the agenda for a future meeting.

AGENDA INFORMATION

Copies of the agenda and supplemental documents relating to specific agenda items are available for review (there may be a charge for copies) in the Office of the City Clerk at City Hall on Friday preceding a regularly scheduled meeting of the Sister Cities Commission (fourth Thursday of the month). A copy of the agenda is also available for review at the Milpitas Library. **A recorded agenda or minutes on standard cassette or printed in large type will be provided upon request by the Clerk's Office for the visually impaired.** Additional information may be obtained from the City Clerk's Office, 455 Calaveras Blvd., Milpitas, CA 95035 (408) 586-3209.

AGENDA

Sister Cities Commission

Thursday, January 22, 2009
Milpitas City Hall, Committee Conference Room
455 E. Calaveras Blvd.
7:00 PM

- I. Roll Call**
- II. Seating of Alternates**
- III. Pledge of Allegiance**
- IV. Approval of Minutes: October 23, 2008**
- V. Approval of Agenda**
- VI. Announcements/Correspondence**
- VII. Public Forum**

Members of the audience are invited to address the Commission on any subject not on tonight's agenda. Speakers must supply their name and address for the record. Commissioners cannot respond to issues brought forward, but may request that the matter be placed on the agenda of a future meeting.

VIII. New Business

1. ELECTIONS

Background: The Sister City Commission by-laws indicates that the Chair and Vice Chair should be elected annually at the first meeting of the year,

Recommendation: Conduct elections for the Chair and Vice Chair positions.

IX. Old Business

2. NUEVA VIZCAYA, PHILIPINES: STATUS REPORT

Background: A letter of interest in a sister city relationship was received from Nueva Vizcaya in August 2008. Staff sent a response in September 2008, that included the forms and process for an official request to become a sister city. No response has been received from Nueva Vizcaya. As requested by the commission, staff sent a follow-up letter in November 2008 and no response has been received.

Recommendation: Open for discussion and recommendation from the commission.

3. HUIZHOU CITY, CHINA: STATUS REPORT ON SISTER CITIES RELATIONSHIP

Background:

Lead Commissioners: Chair Grilli and Commissioner Dugdale.

- Milpitas and Huizhou signed an updated MOU in September 2008 for a five-year term.
- Discuss the feasibility of a student exchange during Spring Break 2009.

Recommendation: Receive verbal report from Lead Commissioners Grilli and Dugdale.

4. DAGUPAN CITY, PHILIPPINES: STATUS REPORT ON SISTER CITIES RELATIONSHIP

Background:

Lead Commissioners: Mateo and Dugdale.

- A government-to-government visit took place on November 18, 2008. A delegation of six visitors attended an e-governance presentation, as well as a session regarding the open government ordinance. They also attended a City Council meeting.
- The term of the Memorandum of Understanding between Milpitas and Dagupan runs through June 2009.

Recommendation: Receive verbal report from Lead Commissioners Mateo and Dugdale.

5. TSUKUBA CITY, JAPAN: STATUS REPORT ON SISTER CITY RELATIONSHIP

Background:

Lead Commissioners: Dugdale and Arbaugh.

- The term of the Memorandum of Understanding between Milpitas and Tsukuba has expired. The commission received proposed terms of student exchanges every five years from Tsukuba. Vice Chair Dugdale sent a counter proposal that recommended student exchanges every other year.

Recommendation: Receive verbal report from Lead Commissioners Dugdale and Arbaugh.

6. WESTERN EUROPEAN SISTER CITY RESEARCH STATUS REPORT

Background:

Lead Commissioners: Arefi and Arbaugh.

- Commissioners Arefi and Arbaugh are continuing research on the potential for a western European sister city.
- Receive update from Commissioner Arbaugh on Hochheim, Germany.

Recommendation: Receive update from Lead Commissioners Arefi and Arbaugh.

X. CITY COUNCIL LIAISON REPORT

XI. SCHOOL DISTRICT LIAISON REPORT

XII. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

1. Sister City Relationships/Cultural Exchanges:
 - i. Huizhou City, China
 - ii. Dagupan City, Philippines
 - iii. Tsukuba City, Japan – Expiration of agreement
2. Western European Sister City Research

XIII. ADJOURNMENT

KNOW YOUR RIGHTS UNDER THE OPEN GOVERNMENT ORDINANCE

Government's duty is to serve the public, reaching its decisions in full view of the public. Commissions, boards, councils and other agencies of the City exist to conduct the people's business. This ordinance assures that deliberations are conducted before the people and the City operations are open to the people's review.

Materials related to an item on this agenda submitted to the City Council after initial distribution of the agenda packet are available for public inspection at the City Clerk's office at Milpitas City Hall, 455 E. Calaveras Blvd., Milpitas during normal business hours.

For more information on your rights under the Open Government Ordinance or to report a violation of the ordinance, contact the City Attorney's office at Milpitas City Hall, 455 E. Calaveras Blvd, Milpitas, CA 95035
E-mail: mogaz@ci.milpitas.ca.gov / Fax 408/586-3030 / Phone 408/586-3040

The Open Government Ordinance is codified in the Milpitas Municipal Code as Title I Chapter 310 and is available online at the City's website www.ci.milpitas.ca.gov by selecting the Milpitas Municipal Code link.